

House Resolution 1057

By: Representatives Abdul-Salaam of the 74th, Thomas of the 55th, Brooks of the 63rd, Bruce of the 64th, Morgan of the 39th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and honoring Reverend Doctor James Edward Orange and inviting him to
2 appear before the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Reverend Doctor James Edward Orange was born in Birmingham, Alabama,
4 on October 29, 1942, to the late Calvin and Ida Orange; and

5 WHEREAS, he is a graduate of Parker High School in Birmingham, Alabama, and attended
6 the former Bishop College in Dallas, Texas, and is the recipient of a doctorate degree from
7 the A. P. Clayton Theological College; and

8 WHEREAS, he is married to the former Cleophas Brown and they have five children and
9 two grandchildren; and

10 WHEREAS, during his youth, he was very involved in the Civil Rights Movement, and was
11 one of the first field staffers hired by the late Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr., and
12 was instrumental in mobilizing youth throughout the Civil Rights Era; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1968, he was responsible for bringing over 300 bus loads of participants to
14 Washington, D. C., for the Poor Peoples' Campaign, which led to the establishment of the
15 food stamp program; and

16 WHEREAS, Reverend Doctor Orange is blessed with exceptional organizational skills and
17 has used these skills in various labor movements, including a hospital workers strike in
18 Charleston, South Carolina; a sanitation strike in Memphis, Tennessee; the J. P. Stevens
19 campaign in Milledgeville, Dublin, and Tifton, Georgia and Louisville, Kentucky; Justice
20 for Janitors in Atlanta, Georgia; campaigns in Tupelo, Mississippi; the worker's campaign
21 in Birmingham, Alabama; and the state workers campaign in Alabama; and

1 WHEREAS, Reverend Doctor Orange developed, organized, and directed grassroots,
2 education/mobilization campaigns that led to the passage of the Workplace Fairness bill;
3 developed and directed a regional conference on "Organizing Worker's Rights and Coalition
4 Building"; coordinated the "Stop the Violence" conference in Atlanta, Georgia; created and
5 supervised the Atlanta Olympic Community Intervention Team; and accompanied Bill Lucy
6 to Brazil for the INSPIR and CUT convention; and

7 WHEREAS, he is retired from the ALF-CIO labor organization and served as a mediator
8 between MARTA and the Transit Union; and

9 WHEREAS, he as received a host of community service awards and several keys to different
10 cities throughout the world; and

11 WHEREAS, Reverend Doctor Orange currently serves on the boards of the Atlanta/Fulton
12 County Commission of Children and Youth; the Highlander Research and Education Center;
13 the National Voting Rights Museum and Institute; the National Tenants Organization; the
14 Southern Christian Leadership Conference/WOMEN, Inc.; and the Southern Organizing
15 Committee; and

16 WHEREAS, Reverend Doctor Orange served on the Georgia Association of Black Elected
17 Officials (GABEO) and, as ambassador to the Republic of South Africa, he worked with
18 world leaders such as President Nelson Mandela, President Thabo Mbeki, and Premier Sbu
19 Ndebele.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
21 the members of this body commend Reverend Doctor James Edward Orange and recognize
22 his illustrious career and invite him to appear before this body at a date and time designated
23 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
25 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Reverend Doctor James
26 Edward Orange.